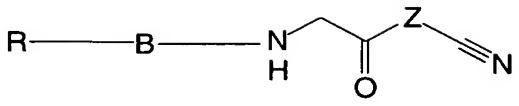
Amendments to the Claims:

Claims 1-20 Cancelled

Claim 21. (New) A compound of formula (I)



(I)

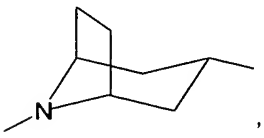
wherein R is

a nitrogen-containing one- or two-ring moiety consisting of one or two aromatic rings; p-tolylsulfonyl;

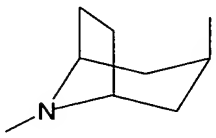
R_{1a}-CH_2 where R_{1a} is hydrogen, C1-4 alkyl, phenyl, benzyl, phenylethyl, phenylethenyl, naphthyl, pyridyl, quinolyl, isoquinolyl, cinnolinyl, phthalazinyl, quinazolinyl, quinoxalinyl, thienyl, furyl or p-tolylsulfonyl optionally independently substituted with one or more C1-4 alkyl, C1-4 alkoxy, alkylenedioxy, halogen, trihalogenomethyl, nitro or cyano; or

R_{1b}-CO, where R_{1b} is C1-4 alkyl, phenyl, benzyl, phenylethyl, phenylethenyl, naphthyl, pyridyl, quinolyl, isoquinolyl, cinnolinyl, phthalazinyl, quinazolinyl or quinoxalinyl, optionally independently substituted with one or more C1-4 alkyl, C1-4 alkoxy, alkylenedioxy, halogen, trihalogenomethyl, nitro or cyano; or R_{1b} is mono- or disubstituted amino, or a saturated N-containing heterocyclic group;

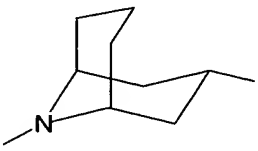
B is a group of formula (1), (2), (3), or (4)



(1)



(2)



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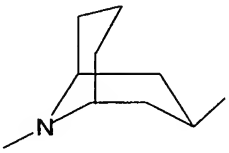
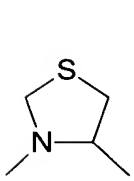


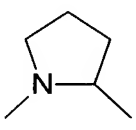
(4)

and

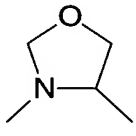
Z is a group of formula (A), (B), (C), (D), (E), or (F);



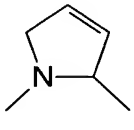
(A)



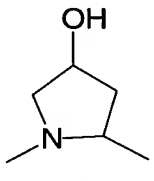
(B)



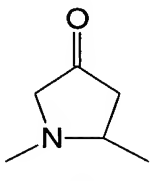
(C)



(D)



(E)



(F)

or a salt, isomer, tautomer, hydrate or solvate thereof.

Claim 22. (New) A compound according to Claim 21 wherein R is
pyridyl, pyridazinyl, pyrimidinyl, pyrazinyl, imidazolyl, pirazolyl, thiazolyl, isothiazolyl, oxazolyl, isoxazolyl, oxadiazolyl, quinolinyl, isoquinolinyl, cinnolinyl, phthalazinyl, quinazolinyl, quinoxalinyl, benzimidazolyl, indazolyl, benzothiazolyl, benzisothiazolyl, benzoxazolyl or benzisoxazolyl optionally independently mono- or disubstituted by C1-4 alkyl, C1-4 alkoxy, halogen, trihalogenomethyl, methylthio, nitro, cyano, C2-5 alkoxycarbonyl or carboxamido;
p-tolylsulfonyl;
R_{1a}-CH_2, where R_{1a} is hydrogen, C1-4 alkyl, phenyl, benzyl, phenylethyl, phenylethenyl, naphthyl, pyridyl, quinolyl, isoquinolyl, cinnolinyl, phthalazinyl, quinazolinyl, quinoxalinyl, thienyl, furyl or p-tolylsulfonyl, optionally independently substituted with one or more C1-4 alkyl, C1-4 alkoxy, alkylenedioxy, halogen, trihalogenomethyl, nitro or cyano; or
R_{1b}-CO where R_{1b} is C1-4 alkyl, phenyl, benzyl, phenylethyl, phenylethenyl, naphthyl, pyridyl, quinolyl, isoquinolyl, cinnolinyl, phthalazinyl, quinazolinyl or quinoxalinyl optionally independently substituted with one or more C1-4 alkyl, C1-4 alkoxy, alkylenedioxy, halogen, trihalogenomethyl, nitro, or cyano; or R_{1b} is mono- or disubstituted amino, or a saturated N-containing heterocyclic group containing pyrrolidino, piperidino, piperazino or morpholino.

Claim 23. (New) A compounds according to Claim 22 wherein R is
pyridyl, pyridazinyl, pyrimidinyl, pyrazinyl, imidazolyl, pirazolyl, thiazolyl, isothiazolyl, oxazolyl, isoxazolyl, oxadiazolyl, quinolinyl, isoquinolinyl, cinnolinyl, phthalazinyl, quinazolinyl, quinoxalinyl, benzimidazolyl, indazolyl, benzothiazolyl, benzisothiazolyl, benzoxazolyl or benzisoxazolyl optionally independently mono- or disubstituted with C1-4 alkyl, C1-4 alkoxy, halogen, trihalogenomethyl, methylthio, nitro, or cyano;
p-tolylsulfonyl;
R_{1a}-CH_2, where R_{1a} is hydrogen, C1-4 alkyl, phenyl, benzyl, phenylethyl, phenylethenyl, naphthyl, pyridyl, quinolyl, isoquinolyl, cinnolinyl, phthalazinyl, quinazolinyl, quinoxalinyl, thienyl, furyl or p-tolylsulfonyl optionally independently substituted with one or more C1-4 alkyl, C1-4 alkoxy, alkylenedioxy, halogen, trihalogenomethyl, nitro or cyano; or
R_{1b}-CO where R_{1b} is C1-4 alkyl, phenyl, benzyl, phenylethyl, phenylethenyl, naphthyl, pyridyl, quinolyl, isoquinolyl, cinnolinyl, phthalazinyl, quinazolinyl or quinoxalinyl

optionally independently substituted with one or more C1-4 alkyl, C1-4 alkoxy, alkylenedioxy, halogen, trihalogenomethyl, nitro or cyano; or R_{1b} is mono- or disubstituted amino, or a saturated N-containing heterocyclic group containing pyrrolidino, piperidino, piperazino or morpholino.

Claim 24. (New) A compound according to Claim 22 wherein R is
pyrimidinyl, pyridyl, pyrazinyl, pyridazinyl, benzothiazolyl, benzisothiazolyl, benzoxazolyl, or benzisoxazolyl optionally independently mono- or disubstituted with C1-4 alkyl, C1-4 alkoxy, halogen, nitro, cyano, C2-5 alkoxycarbonyl or carboxamido;
p-tolylsulfonyl;
R_{1a} - CH_2 wherein R_{1a} is benzyl or phenylethenyl optionally independently substituted with one or more C1-4 alkyl or alkylenedioxy; or
$R_{1b}CO$ where R_{1b} is phenyl, benzyl, phenylethyl, or phenylethenyl optionally substituted with alkylenedioxy, or R_{1b} is piperidino; and
Z is a group of formula (A) or formula (B).

Claim 25. (New) A compound according to Claim 24 wherein R is
pyrimidinyl, pyridyl, pyrazinyl, pyridazinyl, benzothiazolyl, benzisothiazolyl, benzoxazolyl, or benzisoxazolyl optionally independently mono- or disubstituted with C1-4 alkyl, C1-4 alkoxy, halogen, nitro, or cyano;
p-tolylsulfonyl;
R_{1a} - CH_2 wherein R_{1a} is benzyl or phenylethenyl optionally independently substituted with one or more C1-4 alkyl or alkylenedioxy; or
$R_{1b}CO$ where R_{1b} is phenyl, benzyl, phenylethyl, or phenylethenyl optionally independently substituted with alkylenedioxy; or R_{1b} is piperidino.

Claim 26. (New) A compound according to Claim 25 wherein R is pyrimidinyl, pyridyl, or pyrazinyl substituted with nitro or cyano, and B is a group of formula (1) or (2).

Claim 27. (New) A compound selected from the group consisting of:
(4*R*)-3-(2-{[8-(2-Pyrimidinyl)-8-azabicyclo[3.2.1]oct-3-yl]*exo*-amino}acetyl)thiazolidine-4-carbonitrile;

(4*R*)-3-(2-{[8-(5-Cyanopyridin-2-yl)-8-azabicyclo[3.2.1]octan-3-yl]-*exo*-amino}acetyl)thiazolidine-4-carbonitrile;
(4*R*)-3-(2-{[8-(5-Cyanopyridin-2-yl)-8-azabicyclo[3.2.1]octan-3-yl]-*endo*-amino}acetyl)thiazolidine-4-carbonitrile;
(4*R*)-3-(2-{[8-(2-Pyrazinyl)-8-azabicyclo[3.2.1]octan-3-yl]-*exo*-amino}acetyl)thiazolidine-4-carbonitrile; and
(2*S*)-1-(2-{[8-(5-Nitropyridin-2-yl)-8-azabicyclo[3.2.1]octan-3-yl]-*exo*-amino}acetyl)pyrrolidine-2-carbonitrile;
or a salt, hydrate, or solvate thereof.

Claim 28. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound according to Claim 21 together with a pharmaceutically acceptable support material or diluent.

Claim 29. (New) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound according to Claim 22 together with a pharmaceutically acceptable support material or diluent.

Claim 30. (New) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound according to Claim 23 together with a pharmaceutically acceptable support material or diluent.

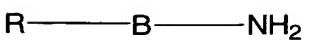
Claim 31. (New) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound according to Claim 24 together with a pharmaceutically acceptable support material or diluent.

Claim 32. (New) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound according to Claim 25 together with a pharmaceutically acceptable support material or diluent.

Claim 33. (New) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound according to Claim 26 together with a pharmaceutically acceptable support material or diluent.

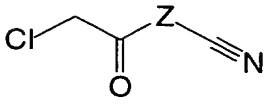
Claim 34. (New) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound according to Claim 27 together with a pharmaceutically acceptable support material or diluent.

Claim 35. (New) A process for the preparation of the compounds of a compound according to Claim 21 which comprises reacting a compound of formula (II)



(II)

with a compound of formula (III)



(III)

wherein in the above formulas R, B, and Z are as defined in Claim 21.

Claim 36. (New) A method of inhibiting DPP-IV enzyme activity which comprises administrating to a patient in need thereof an effective amount of a compound according to Claim 21.

Claim 37. (New) A method of inhibiting DPP-IV enzyme activity which comprises administrating to a patient in need thereof an effective amount of a compound according to Claim 22.

Claim 38. (New) A method of inhibiting DPP-IV enzyme activity which comprises administrating to a patient in need thereof an effective amount of a compound according to Claim 26.

Claim 39. (New) A method of inhibiting DPP-IV enzyme activity which comprises administrating to a patient in need thereof an effective amount of a compound according to Claim 27.

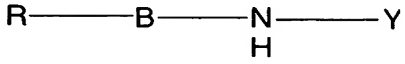
Claim 40. (New) A method for the treatment of diseases related to DPP-IV enzyme concentration which comprises administrating to a patient in need of such treatment a therapeutically effective amount of a compound according to Claim 21.

Claim 41. (New) A method for the treatment of diseases related to DPP-IV enzyme concentration which comprises administrating to a patient in need of such treatment a therapeutically effective amount of a compound according to Claim 22.

Claim 42. (New) A method for the treatment of diseases related to DPP-IV enzyme concentration which comprises administrating to a patient in need of such treatment a therapeutically effective amount of a compound according to Claim 26.

Claim 43. (New) A method for the treatment of diseases related to DPP-IV enzyme concentration which comprises administrating to a patient in need of such treatment a therapeutically effective amount of a compound according to Claim 27.

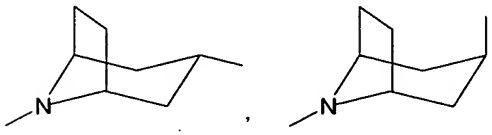
Claim 44. (New) A compound of the formula



wherein

R is a nitrogen-containing one- or two-ring moiety consisting of one or two aromatic rings; p-tolylsulfonyl;

B is a group of formula (1), (2), (3), or (4)

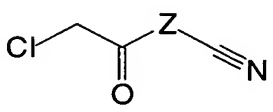


(1) (2) (3) (4) ; and

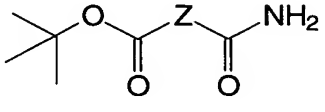
Y is hydrogen or tert-butoxycarbonyl;

or a salt thereof.

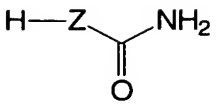
Claim 45. (New) A compound selected from the group consisting of the compounds of formulas III, VII, VIII, and IX



(III)

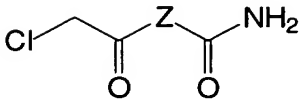


(VII)



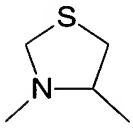
• HCl

(VIII)

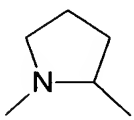


(IX)

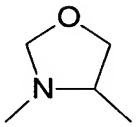
wherein Z is a group of formula (A), (B), (C), (D), (E), or (F)



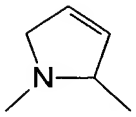
(A)



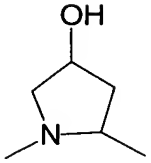
(B)



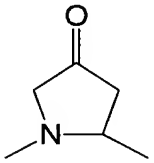
(C)



(D)



(E)



(F)